

Friday, March 1, 2024; 9:55 am
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: Testimony in Support of SB 3126, SD1
Relating To Emergency Aeromedical Services**

My name is Michael Robinson and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I write in support of SB 3126, SD1 which establishes an Emergency Aeromedical Services Partnership Program to be administered by the Department of Health (DOH) in counties with a population of less than 500,000. The measure also proposes cost sharing for the program operations and maintenance, and revenue sharing between the State and the counties of Hawai'i, Kauai and Maui.

Emergency aeromedical services or air ambulances play a crucial role in transporting a critically ill patient from the neighbor islands to Oahu for treatment. Understanding some of the challenges involved with air ambulance services, an overlapping, possibly redundant, safety net of similar services may be beneficial. Such a partnership may lead to positive outcomes, and HPH is open to continued discussions on this subject.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-3126-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/29/2024 8:31:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2024 9:55:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glen Kagamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!!!

MAHALO!

SB-3126-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/29/2024 9:23:28 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2024 9:55:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiffany Lightfoot	Testifying for Global Medical Response	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you to the Committee on Ways and Means for hearing SB3126 SD1 relating to emergency aeromedical services. We are in **strong support** of SB3126 SD1 relating to emergency aeromedical services.

Global Medical Response owns and operates Hawai'i Life Flight, REACH, Guardian Flight, and AirMed International. Hawai'i Life Flight and REACH are the primary aeromedical providers serving Hawai'i. Global Medical Response also owns and operates American Medical Response (AMR) in Hawai'i for ground transportation. REACH and AMR continue to operate Maui MedEvac as one team. This model, as identified by SB3126, serves as an excellent model for Hawai'i statewide.

The Maui Medevac model is a great example of a public (State and County)-private (AMR and REACH) partnership and collaboration. This EMS model has worked for 20 years to service rural Maui County and has proven to be an effective redundancy for our statewide aeromedical system. We, GMR, are supportive of a public-private collaboration.

Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony in **strong support** of SB3126 SD1.